

Madrid 1 Nov^r 1780

Dear Sir

I have just rec^d. your Letter of the 16 Oct^r. -

How happens it that you do not yet ^{know me} 452, 485? Time and
opportunities have not been wanting - I suspect ^{you} 866 sometimes
^{near Double} 712 specimens -

If my Regard for my friends be measured by the length
of the Letters I write them, I confess they have often Reason to
complain, especially as a constant attention to matters of public
Concern, leaves me little Leisure for that pleasing Method of
employing ones vacant Hours. Not many Days have passed
since I wrote you a Letter of more than moderate length, & if
I could indulge my Inclinations, you would read much of
my writing. There are many Subjects both interesting and
otherwise, on which I should be glad to converse with you
either on Paper or in person, but the former is seldom in
my power, for the Reason I have mentioned -- 487, 655, 7
D⁷³, and 1006. ^{his} ^{being} ^{or} ^{by} ^{request}
71, 62, 185 was not with 369, 624, 571, 115, 369, 683. nor shall

I make the least mention of your Remark on that Head -
is a matter about which I have little Curiosity, and would, if
explained, be no further useful to me, than as the Circumstances
which gave Rise to it, might explain Characters. Could I
transport myself for a few Hours to Papy, we should find
ourselves in a Situation similar to those we were often in
at Mrs. Henss's in 1775. ^{Letter 1} 471 cannot effect this. a multiplicity
of Circumstances must necessarily be stated and combined - border
I perceive that you neither ~~understand~~ ^{know, miss} 452, 487 Situation respecting
certain 610, 537 ^{People nor} 2 867. I am convinced that we have the same
^{regard for each} 682, 284, 256 other ^{as before} 1:88. You will be of the same Opinion
if Providence should again ^{give us an occasion of meeting} 344, 828, 3, 575, 576, 170. - There
are no Times to bid adieu to Politics - while you can be
useful in them, don't restrain your Pen from those Subjects.
If ever you and I should talk over these matters, you will
think my Letters less reprehensible - In my last I told you
that ^{again visited Mississippi} 738, 843, 520. A sheet could not convey more to a Person
so well acquainted with the Subject as you are. I could tell
you

^{Spain Delay, 2000 little}
you that 738,215, 198,477 ^{Wth} but these would be only
useless comments on the Text. The Capt of a vessel
lately arrived at Cadiz from N^o. Carolina says our
Paper was appreciated there. The King of Spain has
offered us his Responsibility to facilitate a Loan, and
I am in a fair way of having some clothing for
our army. These circumstances will give you pleasure
I am sure.

If I am not much mistaken the Enemy will attempt
^{in line N^o. to their victory} to 408,403,799,791 ^{Revolution} wth ^{the} 608 you mention or rather
intimate would have great consequences. Instances of the
like have happened. This matter deserves much thought
as to the Editions N^o. of 466, no very great Effects will
follow them in my opinion. but the facts cannot
be altered, they may be misrepresented, and sometimes
sunk, unless care be taken to do them Justice. ^{The State} 780,743,
^{of America} 576,31. I admit to be a serious matter, but I still think
it will terminate well, tho it may be scorched by the
oidesal

ideal thro' which it is to pass. Of this you know more than I do, and therefore can better judge. Still had better be cautious. I believe firmly the old adage, nil ubi nisi quod honestum, and therefore before Politicians or others deviate from Integrity, they should well consider the Consequences. I see very clearly that in the Instance alluded to, Repentance would soon follow, and not only prove ineffectual but ~~fewer~~ — In a word my friend! as to all these matters — I believe that a wise & good Being governs this world, that he has ordered us to travel thro' it to a better, and that we have nothing but our Duty to do on the Journey, which will not be a long one. Let us therefore travel on with spirits & cheerfulness, without grumbling much at the bad Roads, bad Inns or bad Company we may be obliged to put up with on the way. Let us enjoy Prosperity when we have it, and in adversity endeavour to be patient and resigned without being lazy or insensible.

I cannot approve of your ceasing to reflect on certain
Subject

Subjects - The more you reflect on them the better in my
Opinion, upon ~~that~~ the same Principle that it is better
to meet and reduce ones Enemies, than submit to
their Bondage, or remain exposed to repeated Injuries

Mr^{rs} Fay & the Col. desire me to make their
Compliments to you

I am Dr Sir very truly

Your friend & serv^t

John Fay -

The Honble Silas Deane Esq^r

Madrid 1st Nov^r 1780
His Excell^{ty} J^o Jay Esq^r
Lett^r -----